

REMARKS

Interview

Applicants appreciate the courtesy extended to Applicants' representative, Hong Xu, during the personal interview of October 6, 2003. During the interview, the Examiner suggested that claim 1 be amended to include the recitation that "the resin material is a resin other than said silicone oligomer" to overcome the prior art rejection. The Examiner also suggested that claim 17 be similarly amended.

Summary of Claim Amendments

Claims 1 and 17 are amended as suggested by the Examiner. Support can be found on pages 14-15 of the specification. Therefore, no new matter is added.

Summary of the Official Action

1) Claims 1, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,714,650 ("OBAYASHI")

The Office Action states that OBAYASHI discloses all recitations of claims 1, 20, and 21. The Examiner points out that the polysiloxane disclosed in OBAYASHI meets the claims' recitations of "silicone obligomer" and "resin material."

2) Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No.4,666,765 ("CALDWELL")

The Office Action basically states that CALDWELL discloses all of the elements of claim 17.

3) Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,714,650 (“OBAYASHI”)

The Office Action states that OBAYASHI discloses all recitations of claim 17 except that the silicone oligomer has a degree of polymerization in the range of 2 to 7000.

The Office Action also states that Applicant fails to show the criticality of this range. The Office Action concludes that this range would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention.

4) Claim 3 is rejected as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, as being obvious over OBAYASHI.

The Office Action states that OBAYASHI does not explicitly disclose that “the metal hydrate has a surface processed with a silicone oligomer.” However, the Office Action reasons that where the silicone oligomer and metal hydrate are mixed together to form the silicone polymer layer of OBAYASHI, the surface of the metal hydrate would have inherently been processed to some degree. Therefore, the Office Action concludes that this feature of claim 3 would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Traversal of Rejection of claims 1, 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,714,650 (“OBAYASHI”)

It is well settled that for a claim to be anticipated by a prior document, the prior document must disclose or teach each and every recitation of the claim. In the present application, Applicants respectfully submit that OBAYASHI does not disclose or suggest the recitation of the claims that the resin material is a resin other than the mentioned silicone oligomer. Therefore, OBAYASHI fails to disclose or suggest all recitations of the claims 1, 20, and 21 and therefore cannot be said to anticipate or render obvious claims 1, 20, and 21 of the present application. The rejection should therefore be withdrawn.

Traversal of Rejection of claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,666,765 (“CALDWELL”)

Similarly, CALDWELL does not disclose or suggest the new recitations of the claim that the resin component is a resin other than the mentioned silicone oligomer and the silicone oligomer comprises an aromatic group. Therefore, the rejection to claim 17 should be withdrawn.

Traversal of Rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,714,650 (“OBAYASHI”)

As the Examiner is well aware, in order to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, there must be suggestion or motivation to change the cited document to arrive at the presently claimed invention. Here, OBAYASHI does not disclose or suggest the new recitation of the claims that the resin material is a resin other than the mentioned silicone

P21547.A08

oligomer and there is no motivation to change OBAYASHI to arrive at the claimed invention. Therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn.

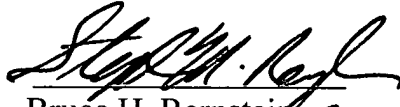

Traversal of Rejection of claim 3 as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, as being obvious over OBAYASHI.

As discussed above, the rejection should be withdrawn because OBAYASHI does not disclose or suggest the new recitation of the claims that the resin material is a resin other than the mentioned silicone oligomer.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. If any issues yet remain which can be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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